IN THE SPECIFICATION

Before the first paragraph insert the title

FIELD OF THE INVENTION

The present invention relates to an automatic mechanically controlled continuously-variable-ratio drive, particularly for a vehicle.

Page 1, replace the the third paragraph as follows:

In automatic mechanical control solutions, ~~friction seals~~ friction linings are interposed between the half-pulleys and the clutch disk and disk-pusher plate respectively, and a centrifugal control device cooperates with the disk-pusher plate to move it axially towards the pulley by an amount varying as a function of the speed of the shaft.

Pages 1 and 2 replace the fourth paragraph as follows:

More specifically, in one known solution, the control device comprises a hub fixed rigidly to the shaft; and a number of centrifugal weights carried by the hub and for centrifugally exerting axial thrust on the disk-pusher plate, so as first to connect the pulley to the input shaft by means of the ~~friction seals~~ friction linings, and then gradually reduce the distance between the half-pulleys as the angular speed of the input shaft increases.

Page 9, replace the fifth paragraph as follows:

Actuating device 42 rotates with input shaft 2. Auxiliary weights 45 are maintained in a radially withdrawn position, contacting hub 37, by actuating ring 54, which in turn is pushed axially by spring 55 against auxiliary weights 45, so that friction surface 59 of ~~friction seals~~

friction linings 58 is detached from friction surface 60 of sleeve 64.

Page 10, replace the third paragraph as follows:

Once the initial axial clearance is recovered, friction surface 59 of ~~friction seal~~ friction lining 58 on actuating ring 54 cooperates with friction surface 60 of sleeve 64 to exert axial thrust on the whole of drive assembly 5 towards flywheel 10 and in opposition to the elastic reaction of spring 34.